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Oppose House Bill 4265 and 4266 – Returning Yard Waste to Landfills is a Mistake.

Summary of House Bill 4265 and 4266

- House Bill 4265 and 4266 are opening the doors to return Yard Waste back to landfills. At first it may start out being what seems like a small amount of material, but it is just the start to get the foot in the door so to speak.

Bill contents of House Bill 4265 and 4266:

- These Bills are being introduced to generate more landfill gas for the generation of electricity by allowing Yard Waste to return to landfills.
- Michigan has 50 landfills and anywhere from 3 to 35 may be able to take advantage of this as soon as a change in law goes into effect.
- Landfill gas produced by municipal solid waste is considered a renewable energy resource under Michigan Law.

Fiscal Impact

- Landfill operators pay seven cents per cubic yard of solid waste. Qualified landfills would generate additional revenue from the Solid Waste Surcharge to the DEQ. If all 1.1 million cubic yards of yard clippings were taken to qualified landfills, the revenue increase would be \$77,000 annually to the DEQ.

Michigan Needs Yard Waste to be recycled and not landfilled for some very important following reasons:

- Currently, there isn't any topsoil available in Michigan. Topsoil comes from stripping the material off of new construction job sites being generated and what do we know about construction activity right now --- there isn't any. This means there is going to be a shortage of topsoil especially this coming spring. We need the finished compost to act as a replacement for topsoil. Topsoil can be manufactured by blending in finished compost.
- **Yard Waste Compost is the only thing that we have to manufacture nutrient soil, even dirt for that matter. Man can generate methane and energy through several different ways but there is no other way to make dirt other than through the process of recycling yard waste.**
- Michigan is supposed to be green and we are taught to recycle our valued sources of material to conserve them and conserve landfill space.
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